

One Court of Justice

Michigan Supreme Court

2003 Annual Report

Probate Court

Statistical Supplement

Introduction

In the Fall of 1997, the State Court Administrative Office commenced a project to revise the trial court caseload reports. The project was initiated partly in response to the creation of the family division of circuit court, but also to bring more uniformity between the three trial court jurisdictions. This new reporting system was implemented January 1, 2002. For highlights of the new system, an explanation as to what the new data means, and an analysis of the data, see the *Michigan Supreme Court 2003 Annual Report*.

Much of the information in this report is due to the hard work and dedication of the trial courts and their information technology departments, the Judicial Information Systems, and staff of the State Court Administrative Office implementing major changes to the caseload reporting system. These changes included not only the revised reporting requirements but the development of a web application for collecting and reporting caseload data. The willingness of the courts to accommodate this new technology, their patience during the refinement of the web application and the verification process, and the expense to their resources associated with implementing this project is much appreciated. Their many efforts have resulted in a much improved caseload reporting system.

The caseload data for 2003 is provided in both a summary format and a detail format. The summary format is organized under categories that had been used in previous years so that comparisons can continue to be made from one year to the next. A legend is provided which explains under which category case type codes appear in the summary. The detail format shows the totals by each case type code.

Statewide Probate Court Summary

2003 Court Caseload Report

	Estates, Trusts					Civil, Other		Guardianships, Conservators, Admissions, Mental Commitments							Total
	Det. of Heirs	Estate Admin.	Small Estates	Trust Inter Vivos	Trust Test.	Civil	Other Matters	Adult Cons.	Adult Guardian.	Minor Cons.	Minor Guardian.	Protective Orders	Judicial Adm.	Mental Com.	
Beginning Pending	3	1,030	87	152	71	513	48	691	1,513	293	1,176	83	23	667	6,350
New Filings	21	18,803	6,897	760	156	389	481	3,847	9,443	2,237	7,733	425	74	13,706	64,972
Reopened	0	764	248	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,021
Total Caseload	24	20,597	7,232	912	227	911	529	4,538	10,956	2,530	8,909	508	97	14,373	72,343
Jury Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bench Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Uncontested/Dflt/Settled	0	0	0	0	0	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83
Petition Granted	0	18,616	6,861	558	122	0	404	2,881	7,773	1,995	6,503	324	23	5,958	52,018
Order Determining Testacy	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Order Determining Heirs	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Petition Denied	0	51	58	2	1	0	0	44	103	5	131	5	2	103	505
Transferred	0	17	0	2	1	5	0	14	44	5	27	0	0	20	135
Dismissed by Party	0	0	0	0	0	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99
Dismissed by Court	0	0	0	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
Petition Withdrawn/Dis.	1	180	54	48	5	0	5	749	1,634	46	1,201	17	21	2,290	6,251
Deferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,700	4,700
Inactive Status	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other Disposition	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Case Type Change	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	3	5	3	0	0	30
Total Dispositions	13	18,881	6,973	610	129	261	409	3,690	9,558	2,054	7,867	349	46	13,071	63,911
Ending Pending	11	1,716	259	302	98	650	120	848	1,398	476	1,042	159	51	1,302	8,432

Estates and Trusts

Estate Cases Supervised by the Court During the Year	5,224
Total Number of Trust Registrations	154

	Jan. 1	New	Closed	Dec. 31
Total Active Estate and Trust Cases	38,511	20,483	20,902	38,092

Guardianships/Conservatorships	Jan. 1	New	Closed	Dec. 31
Total Adults with a Guardian	30,562	7,875	7,528	30,909
Total Adults with a Conservator	16,719	3,847	3,984	16,582
Total Minors with a Guardian	32,048	7,733	6,184	33,597
Total Minors with a Conservator	16,596	2,237	2,168	16,665
Total Dev. Disabled Persons w/ a Guardian	18,475	1,568	1,054	18,989

Wills

Total number of wills filed for safekeeping and delivered after death of testator	13,041
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Foreign Birth

Total number of motions filed with the court to establish delayed registration of foreign birth by court order	443
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Other Mental Commitment Petitions Filed and Disposed

Total Petitions Filed for Second Order	530
Total Petitions Filed for Continuing Order	1,463
Total Number of Supplemental Petitions Presented to the Court for Court Ordered Examination on an Application for Hospitalization and Total Number of Petitions Presented to the Court for Court Ordered Transportation of a Minor	3,148
Total Petitions Granted for Second Order	528
Total Petitions Denied for Second Order	9
Total Petitions Granted for Continuing Order	1,248
Total Petitions Denied for Continuing Order	17

	Estates, Trusts						Civil/Other		Guardianships, Conservators, Admissions, Mental Commitments										
	DA	DE	DH	PE	TT	TV	CZ	ML	CA	CY	DD	GA	GL	GM	JA	LG	MI	PO	Total
Beginning Pending	118	912	3	87	71	152	513	48	691	293	394	1,102	17	777	23	399	667	83	6,350
New Filings	673	18,130	21	6,897	156	760	389	481	3,847	2,237	1,568	7,748	127	5,118	74	2,615	13,706	425	64,972
Reopened	138	626	0	248	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,021
Total Caseload	929	19,668	24	7,232	227	912	911	529	4,538	2,530	1,962	8,850	144	5,895	97	3,014	14,373	508	72,343
	DA	DE	DH	PE	TT	TV	CZ	ML	CA	CY	DD	GA	GL	GM	JA	LG	MI	PO	Total
Jury Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bench Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Uncontested/Dflt/Settled	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83
Petition Granted	662	17,954	0	6,861	122	558	0	404	2,881	1,995	1,489	6,156	128	4,268	23	2,235	5,958	324	52,018
Order Determining Testacy	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Order Determining Heirs	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Petition Denied	1	50	0	58	1	2	0	0	44	5	6	95	2	92	2	39	103	5	505
Transferred	2	15	0	0	1	2	5	0	14	5	11	32	1	19	0	8	20	0	135
Dismissed by Party	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99
Dismissed by Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
Petition Withdrawn/Dis.	37	143	1	54	5	48	0	5	749	46	49	1,578	7	857	21	344	2,290	17	6,251
Deferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,700	0	4,700
Inactive Status	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other Disposition	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Case Type Change	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	1	3	0	2	0	3	30
Total Dispositions	706	18,175	13	6,973	129	610	261	409	3,690	2,054	1,555	7,864	139	5,239	46	2,628	13,071	349	63,911
	DA	DE	DH	PE	TT	TV	CZ	ML	CA	CY	DD	GA	GL	GM	JA	LG	MI	PO	Total
Ending Pending	223	1,493	11	259	98	302	650	120	848	476	407	986	5	656	51	386	1,302	159	8,432

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Probate Court Caseload Annual Report Legend

Estates, Trusts

- Determination of Heirs – DH
- Estate Administration –
 - Unsupervised Administration – DA
 - Supervised Administration – DE
- Small Estates – PE
- Trust Inter Vivos – TV
- Trust Testamentary. – TT

Civil, Other

- Civil – CZ
- Other Matters – ML

Guardianships, Conservatorships, Admissions, Mental Commitments

- Adult Conservatorship – CA
- Adult Guardianship –
 - Developmental Disability – DD
 - Full Guardianship – GA
 - Limited Guardianship – GL
- Minor Conservatorship – CY
- Minor Guardianship –
 - Full Guardianship – GM
 - Limited Guardianship – LG
- Protective Orders – PO
- Judicial Admission – JA
- Mental Commitment – MI

Foreign Birth - BR

Trust Registration - TR

Wills - WS